

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/526,173

Examiner

A. Dexter Tugbang

Applicant(s)

IMAMURA, ISAO

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 10/14/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-13.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 March 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>12/23/04</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Douglas Pinsky on December 22, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 8 has been amended as follows.

8. (Amended) A method of manufacturing an inkjet recording head, comprising the steps of:

preparing a base plate having an ink ejection pressure generating element and a liquid path pattern, which is removable, located on a part of the base plate that includes the ink ejection pressure-generating element;

applying a first active energy setting material on the base plate and the liquid path pattern;

applying an ink-repellent second active energy setting material, which is dry, on the first active energy setting material before exposing the first active energy setting material;

forming [the same latent] an image pattern of an ejection port for ejecting ink, which image pattern is the same in both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material, by exposing both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material in a process by applying light to both

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the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material simultaneously through a mask corresponding to an the ejection port for ejecting ink; and

developing the [latent] image pattern formed in the preceding step in the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material so as to form the ejection port above the ink ejection pressure generating element.

Reasons for Allowance

2. Applicant's arguments, see page 5 of the amendment filed on 10/14/04, with respect to the 112, first paragraph rejection in the last Office Action (Non-Final Rejection, dated 7/14/04) have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous 112, first paragraph rejection in the last Office Action has been withdrawn. The examiner further notes that the specification (at page 5, 2nd paragraph) fully supports the claimed aspect of applying light by irradiation to both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material occurs "simultaneously".

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art does not teach all of the limitations of the claimed invention including forming an image pattern of an ejection port for ejecting ink, which image pattern is the same in both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material, by exposing both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material in a process by applying light to both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material simultaneously through a mask corresponding to an the ejection port for ejecting ink.

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The reference to Miyagawa et al (U. S. Patent 5,331,344) was relied upon for the above claimed feature in which Miyagawa'344 shows forming an image pattern 8 for ejecting ink in a first active energy setting material (photosensitive layer 5) and forming another image pattern for an ink-repellent second active energy setting material (photosensitive layer 3) in which light, or irradiation, is applied *separately* to each of the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material (discussed at col. 13, lines 15-35).

Miyagawa'344 does not form an image pattern of an ejection port for ejecting ink, which the image pattern is the same in both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material, by exposing both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material in a process by applying light to both the first active energy setting material and the ink-repellent second active energy setting material *simultaneously* through a mask corresponding to an the ejection port for ejecting ink.

Accordingly, Claims 8-13 are allowed.

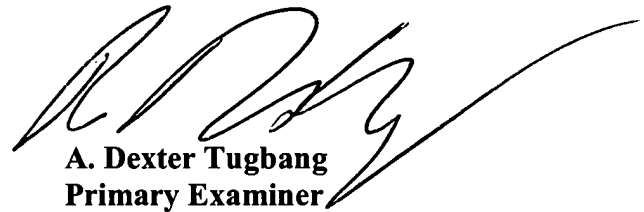
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to A. Dexter Tugbang whose telephone number is 571-272-4570. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



A. Dexter Tugbang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3729

December 23, 2004